

Public Notice – Environmental Project

PURPOSE OF NOTICE:

The Department of Environmental Quality seeks public comment on the state's response to the environmental aspects of a proposed project in the City of Newport News, Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

April 30, 2013 to May 28, 2013

TYPE OF RESPONSE:

Federal Consistency Certification

DEQ is reviewing a proposed federal permitting activity to determine if it is consistent with the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program (VCP) established pursuant to the U.S. Coastal Zone Management Act. The VCP seeks to protect the quality of air, water or other natural resources in Virginia's coastal area.

NAME OF AGENCY PROPOSING THE PROJECT:

DOD/U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Kinder Morgan, Inc. proposes to dredge the north berth of Pier IX at the Kinder Morgan facility on the James River in the City of Newport News. Kinder Morgan finds that it is necessary to deepen the berth to -52 feet Mean Low Water (MLW) (the current permitted depth is -45 feet MLW) to accommodate the larger PANAMAX vessels now being used to transport coal. The deepening will allow for coal loading from the larger vessels on both sides of the pier. The footprint of the dredge area is approximately 476,500 square feet (10.94 acres). The length of the dredge area is approximately 1,475 feet with a width that ranges from about 200 feet at the berth to about 650 feet at the approach to the berth. An estimated 118,200 cubic yards of maintenance dredging and 83,600 cubic yards of new dredging are required to achieve the proposed depth. The material will be dredged mechanically and then barged in sealed scows for disposal at the Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area in the City of Portsmouth. Kinder Morgan intends to submit a Joint Permit Application to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the issuance of an individual permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Accordingly, Kinder Morgan has submitted a Federal Consistency Certification, under Subpart D of the Federal Consistency Regulations of the Coastal Zone Management Act, which finds the proposal consistent with the enforceable policies of the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program.

HOW TO COMMENT:

DEQ accepts comments from the public by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments must include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ within the comment period. The public may review the project documents at DEQ's central office in Richmond.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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